

1. The applicant's response filed 1/27/2010 has been entered and considered by the examiner in which claims 41-49 are pending.
2. The applicant is advised to correct the dependency of claims 47 and 48 (claim 47 should depend on claim 46 and claim 48 should depend on claim 41), so that the claim tree of the pending application matches the claim's tree of the patent 6,246,683 (The applicant tried to fix the lack of antecedent issues by rewriting the dependency of the claims, but rather to change the indefinite article of the claim).
3. The applicant is therefore advised to redraft the suggestion of the interference to correct the grouping of claims in the counts.
4. The applicant should provide evidence to support the conclusion of obviousness of the claim mappings. Specifically the applicant should support evidence why it is obvious to use a **transmit control block (TCB)** in the pending claims instead of a **flow specification** in the patent (6,246,683) and vice versa.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Moustafa M. Meky whose telephone number is 571-272-4005. The examiner can normally be reached on flex.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ario Etienne can be reached on 571-272-4001. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Moustafa M Meky/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2457

5/31/2010